

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 880 without my signature.

Counties have made significant progress in employing effective methods and practices for identifying and locating relatives for the purpose of finding appropriate homes for children in foster care. Current law requires counties to make considerable effort to identify and locate family members when making foster care placements. Because California is a national leader in identifying relatives of children in foster care this bill is unnecessary. In California, child welfare services are delivered by counties. Some counties already use innovative computer technology to locate family members and the remaining counties have the option to enact similar measures without the need for legislative intervention.

Additionally, the bill does not provide resources to develop the cost benefit analysis of using locator technology.

For these reasons, I cannot support this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger